On Friday April 21<sup>st</sup>, the Town of Fortville employees had a pitch-in lunch at Fortville's Memorial Park. Nice weather allowed us to be outside at the park. The staff prepared a gourmet meal of hamburgers and hot dogs.

I guess you could call it a monthly staff meeting. We added a new twist, this time we invited the staff from McCordsville as our guests. We received a complete turn-out of McCordsville's staff. Their Town Manager, utility employees, and street crew all came to enjoy the lunch and camaraderie. A few of our council members attended as well and a very pleasant lunch was enjoyed by all.

Fortville and McCordsville are close neighbors. We share a lot of the same items in today's small town situations. Gathering in a relaxed atmosphere, we shared town talk, ideas, problems, and some humor. We weren't talking on cell phones or e-mail. We were talking to each other. It really helps to share ideas, and concerns with people who are involved in the same situations. Perhaps we all need to get together more often for communication in a relaxed atmosphere.

The Main Street gathering recently was an excellent example. The world we live in now is so fast and complicated. We can't slow it down but there is strength in numbers and knowledge in networking with people.

Mike Ferris